## REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 29, 2003. Claims 1-37 remain in this application. Claims 1, 8, 15, 17-20, 22, 24-27 and 29-37 have been amended to define more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29-31, 36 and 37 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The title has been amended to make it more descriptive, as required in the Office Action.

Claims 1-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 5,659,164 (Schmid et al.) in view of U.S. Patent 5,019,916 (Ogura).

The present invention relates to an information processing system having a multifunction apparatus, which is equipped with a facsimile function, and an information processing apparatus.

Among other important features of the aspects of the present invention that are respectively set out in independent Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and 30, are to store output image data composed of a plurality of pages, to acquire output size of a prescribed page of the plurality of pages from output configuring information of corresponding output image data, and to change the size of each page of the output image data based upon the output size so as to coincide with the size of the prescribed page and the other pages. By virtue of these features, even if transmission document includes a plurality of mixed paper sizes, the user need not create the document again in order to make the paper sizes uniform, as that is achieved automatically. In other word, output image data to be transmitted can be

transmitted to a receiving side after the sizes of the various bodies of output image data are made to coincide with each other. As a result, the receiving side receives the information in a form such that the data will be output on paper of one size only, rather than onto a plurality of mixed paper sizes.

More specifically, independent Claim 1 is directed to a n information processing system having a multifunction apparatus, which is equipped with a facsimile function, and an information processing apparatus. The system comprises temporary storing means for temporarily storing, on a storage medium in an intermediate data format, output image data composed of a plurality of pages as well as output configuring information, and acquisition means for acquiring output size of a prescribed page from the output configuring information of the output image data in the intermediate data format stored temporarily by the temporary storing means. Also provided are changing means for changing the size of each page of the output image data based upon the output size acquired by the acquisition means, such that all the pages coincide in size with the output size of the prescribed page.

*Schmid* relates to automatically creating, identifying, routing and storing digitally scanned documents. In the *Schmid* system, pages of originals are scanned in, and each page of data is associated with corresponding page-specific data. The image data and page data are stored prior to transmission. as is conceded in the Office Action, *Schmid* does not teach or suggest modifying image or page size.

*Ogura* relates to a digital copier having a facsimile function, where the receiving side changes the size of received a received document according to the paper size

used at the receiving side, and based on size information transmitted by the transmitting side. In the *Ogura* approach, the received document size (such as A3) is magnified at the receiving side to a size (such as A4) which the receiving side is capable of handling (e.g., a size which the receiving machine is built to handle). In *Ogura*, when a series of pages with a plurality of mixed paper sizes is transmitted, the size of each page is magnified -- again, at the receiving side -- to the appropriate size page by page. This is done, however, purely on the basis of a difference in size between the page size of an arriving page of image data, and the paper size being used at the receiving side. Nothing has been found, or pointed out, in *Ogura* that would teach or suggest that the receiving side should, or even could, control the page size of incoming data based on a page size set by a prescribed page of that incoming data, as is done by the changing means recited in Claim 1. Still less has anything been found in *Ogura* that would teach or suggest any means by which the output size to be used for a set of arriving pages could be determined based on a size set in just one of those pages (the "prescribed" page), as is recited in Claim 1.

For these reasons, at least, Claim 1 is believed to be clearly allowable over *Ogura* and *Schmid*, taken separately or in any possible combination (assuming for argument's sake that such combination would even be permissible).

Independent Claims 8, 15, 22 and 29 are, variously, apparatus, method, and computer-readable memory claims corresponding to Claim 1, and are deemed allowable over those two patents for the same reasons as is Claim 1.

Among other important features of the aspect of the present invention recited in Claim 31, are to acquire size information which represents the size of data to be

transmitted, to generate cover page information, which is for being attached to the data to be transmitted, and to execute processing such as to make coincide with each other the size of the cover page information and a page size of the data to be transmitted.

By virtue of this arrangement, in order to make the size of a cover page the same as that of each transmission document, the user need not prepare cover pages whose sizes differ depending upon the transmission documents; rather, a cover page whose paper size is the same as that of the transmission document, is attached automatically.

More specifically, independent Claim 31 is directed to a data processing apparatus that comprises a connecting unit, adapted to connect with a data transmission device, a generating unit, adapted to generate data to be transmitted by the data transmission device connected via the connecting unit, and an acquisition unit, adapted to acquire size information which represents size of the data generated by the generating unit. The apparatus also has a processing unit, adapted to execute processing to attach cover page information, which has the same size as the data generated by the generating unit, based upon the size information acquired by the acquisition unit.

Claim 31 is believed to be allowable over *Schmid* and *Ogura*, separately or in any proper combination (if any), for the same reasons as is Claim 1. Since Claims 36 and 37 are method and memory claims corresponding to Claim 31, the latter two claims also are believed to be allowable for the same reasons as is Claim 31.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as

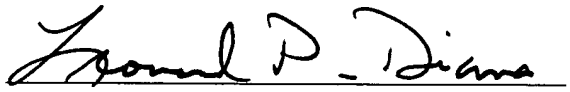
references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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